



Frank H. Murkowski, Governor

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NEWS RELEASE

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First Lady of Alaska Swears-In 40 New AmeriCorps Members

(Juneau) – At the Governor’s residence in Juneau today, the State’s First Lady swore in SAGA’s new AmeriCorps members from both Serve Alaska Youth Corps (SAYC) and the Young Alaskans Building Affordable Housing (YABAH) programs. Earlier this year Nancy Murkowski was named the Honorary Chair of the Alaska State Community Service Commission.

“It was an honor to conduct the ceremony and to see the enthusiasm on these young faces,” said Nancy Murkowski. “They represent young Alaskans who are encouraging responsibility among our youth. They are together developing job skills, work experience, and a commitment to the ethic of volunteerism.”

Out of the 40 members, 24 will serve for 10 months as crew leaders for the Alaska Youth Corps, and travel throughout the state working to improve public lands and facilities. The remaining 16 members will spend nine months earning a high school GED, while building affordable housing in Juneau from the ground up. These 16 will then graduate with guaranteed jobs in the construction industry.

AmeriCorps programs require a substantial non-federal match to its funding. The three major contributors of private funds are ConocoPhillips; Wythe-Dornan, Brian Douglas Memorial Fund; and the Juneau Community Foundation/Machamer Charitable Fund.

This year marks AmeriCorps’ 10th anniversary of service to America, and today’s new members will work to prove true, the AmeriCorps pledge of **Getting Things Done**. For more information, contact Elsa Sargento, Executive Director of the Alaska Community Service Commission at (907) 269-4659 or visit the web at <http://www.dced.state.ak.us/ascsc/home.htm>.

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